

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are pending in the present application. By this Response, claims 1, 11, 15 and 19 are amended to recite, wherein the hub is not connected to any external network. Support for the additional claim may be found at least on pages 7 through 11 and Figure 1. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 103, Alleged Obviousness, Claims 1-3, 5-7 and 9-29

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3, 5-7 and 9-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly obvious over Beswick et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,480,580) in view of Meltzer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,226,675). Because this rejection is essentially the same as in the previous Office Action, this rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons stated in the previous Responses filed July 7, 2003 and November 24, 2003, the remarks of which are hereby incorporated by reference. The following remarks are provided in rebuttal of the Examiner's statements in the present Office Action beginning on page 2, paragraph 3 of the Office Action dated April 16, 2004.

In the November 24, 2003 Response, Applicants argued that Beswick reference does not teach or suggest, with respect to claim 1, each of the plurality of computing devices communicates with the hub via only a wireless connection and the hub receives and retransmits requested documents between selected computing devices of the plurality of computing devices. In response, the Examiner, on pages 2-3 of the present Office Action states the following:

The examiner respectfully submits that Figure 1 of Beswick's reference disclose plurality of devices (104a-n) is communicated with the hub via wireless only, and the wireless hub is depicted as providing wireless communication to a plurality of users through devices 104a-n. Also, the architecture for communication between the wireless base station such as hub(s), router(s), switch(es), ect... and plurality of devices via wireless only is well known in the art.

Applicants respectfully submit that Beswick does not teach or suggest the features of each of the plurality of computing devices communicates with the hub via only a wireless connection and the hub receives and retransmits requested documents between

selected computing devices of the plurality of computing devices where the hub is not connected to any external network.

The Office Action alleges that these features are taught by Beswick at column 4, lines 54-56 and column 5, 2nd paragraph, which read as follows:

As shown in FIG. 2, first bus 204 is further interfaced to a second bus 208, through a bus interface (I/F) 206. By way of example, second bus 208 can be a Universal Serial Bus (USB), a Peripheral Component Interconnect (PCI) bus, an Industry Standard Architecture (ISA) bus, or other similar bus.

A plurality of devices can be connected to second bus 208. For example, as depicted, a secondary memory 210 can be connected to second bus 208 to provide additional data storage. Secondary memory 210 can include, for example, additional RAM, DRAM, static random access memory (SRAM) (e.g., flash memory), a disk or tape drive and associated magnetic or optomagnetic storage medium, an optical storage drive and optical storage medium, or other like storage device.

At least one input device 212 is also connected to second bus 208 and configured to accept inputs from an operator. Input device 212 can include, for example, a keyboard device, a mouse device, a trackball device, a pen device, a pointing device, a touch sensitive input device, a microphone device, or other like input device. The inputs from input device 212 are then provided to processor 200, application 218, or any of the other applicable connected devices in FIGS. 1 and 2.

In this section along with Figure 2, to which it refers, Beswick teaches the elements comprising the Beswick hub including element 106, which is an external network. The external network connected to the Beswick hub is an important component of the Beswick invention, as the external network provides the telephony services of the one or more telecommunications networks to the hub and the devices connected to the hub. The telephony service provided by the external network can be any type of communications network that is arranged to provide communications with remote users and/or devices or interface to other external network resources such as an intranet and/or the Internet. The Beswick devices include any type of communication device that is configured for accessing a computer telephony system provided by the external network. The Beswick devices are configured to transmit and receive (i.e., exchange) information in the form of either analog or digital data through hub to the various resources provided by external network (see column 4, lines 6-33).

Thus, in the system of Beswick, the communication devices are configured to access the computer telephony system provided by the external network. And though the communication devices communicate via a wireless connection to the hub, there is nothing in this section or any other section of Beswick, that teaches or suggest each of the plurality of computing devices communicates with the hub via only a wireless connection and the hub receives and retransmits requested documents between selected computing devices of the plurality of computing devices where the hub is not connected to any external network. Furthermore, Beswick teaches that a user selects a device and logs on the network telephony system using the selected device. Thus, the Beswick system is not intended to be used without the external network.

Regarding the Examiners assertion that the architecture for communicating between the wireless bas station such as hub(s), router(s), switch(es) ect... and the plurality of devices via wireless only is well known in the art is respectfully traversed. Applicants respectfully submit that communicating between devices through a wireless hub which is not connected to any external network is not well known in the art. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner provide documentation to support any such assertion.

Moreover, there is not so much as a suggestion in the Beswick or Meltzer references to modify the references to include such features. That is, there is no teaching or suggestion in Beswick or Meltzer that a problem exists for which each of the plurality of computing devices communicates with the hub via only a wireless connection and the hub receives and retransmits requested documents between selected computing devices of the plurality of computing devices where the hub is not connected to any external network, is a solution. To the contrary, Beswick only teaches communications between the wireless communication devices and the various resources provided by the external networks. Meltzer does not teach a wireless network. Neither reference even recognizes a need to create a system where each of the plurality of computing devices communicates with the hub via only a wireless connection and the hub receives and retransmits requested documents between selected computing devices of the plurality of computing where the hub is not connected to any external network.

One of ordinary skill in the art, being presented only with Beswick and Meltzer, and without having a prior knowledge of Applicants' claimed invention, would not have found it obvious to combine and modify Beswick and Meltzer to arrive at Applicants' claimed invention. To the contrary, even if one were somehow motivated to combine Beswick and Meltzer, and it were somehow possible to combine the two systems, the result would not be the invention as recited in claim 1. The result would be a hub providing wireless communication from a wireless device to a network. The resulting system still would not allow communication from one wireless computing device to another wireless computing device through a hub not connected to an external network.

A similar distinction applies to independent claims 11, 15 and 19 which recite "sending, from a first data processing system, a request, in a system independent language, for a shared document from a second data processing system to a hub in close proximity to the first and second data processing systems via only a wireless communication signal, receiving, from the hub, via only the wireless communication link, the shared document, formatted in the system independent language and translating the shared document from the system independent language into a first data processing system preferred data format for presentation to a user where the hub is not connected to any external network." As Beswick teaches communications between a wireless communication device through a hub to a wired external network, there is no teaching or suggestion in the Beswick reference for the wireless communication devices to communicate to each other through the hub, which is not connected to any external network.

Furthermore, a similar distinction applies to independent claims 23, 25 and 27, which recite "receiving a request in a system independent format from a first data processing system via only a wireless communication link, broadcasting the request to a second data processing system via only the wireless communication link, receiving an answer in a system independent format from the second data processing system via only the wireless communication link, and broadcasting the answer to the first data processing system via only the wireless communication link where the hub is not connected to any external network." As these claims are directed to the method, program and system of the hub, Beswick does not teach or suggest that the hub, which is not connected to any

external network, would allow communications between the wireless communications devices as the Beswick hub is configured to allow communications between the wireless communication devices and the various resources provided by the external networks.

Thus, in view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that neither Beswick nor Meltzer, either alone or in combination teach or suggest the features of independent claims 1, 11, 15, 19, 23, 25 and 27. At least by virtue of their dependency on claims 1, 11, 15, 19, 23, 25 and 27, Beswick and Meltzer do not teach or suggest each and every feature of dependent claims 2, 3, 5-7, 9, 10, 12-14, 16-18, 20-22, 24, 26 and 28. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-3, 5-7 and 9-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

II. 35 U.S.C. § 103, Alleged Obviousness, Claim 4

The Office Action rejects claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly obvious over Beswick et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,480,580) in view of Meltzer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,226,675) and further in view of Sopko (U.S. Patent No. 6,003,068). Because this rejection is essentially the same as in the previous Office Action, this rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons stated in the previous Response filed July 7, 2003, the remarks of which are hereby incorporated by reference. The following remarks are provided in rebuttal of the Examiner's statements in the present Office Action beginning on pages 2-4 of the Office Action.

Claim 4 is dependent on independent claim 1; thus, this claim distinguishes over Sopko for at least the reasons noted above with regards to claim 1. Moreover, Sopko does not provide for the deficiencies of Beswick and Meltzer and thus, any alleged combination of Sopko, Beswick and Meltzer would not be sufficient to reject claim 1 or claim 4 by virtue of its dependency. That is, Sopko does not teach or suggest each of the plurality of computing devices communicates with the hub via only a wireless connection and the hub receives and retransmits requested documents between selected computing devices of the plurality of computing devices and where the hub is not connected to any external network, as recited in claim 1 from which claim 4 depends. Accordingly,

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

III. 35 U.S.C. § 103, Alleged Obviousness, Claim 8

The Office Action rejects claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly obvious over Beswick et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,480,580) in view of Meltzer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,226,675) and further in view of Koperda (U.S. Patent No. 6,003,068). Because this rejection is essentially the same as in the previous Office Action, this rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons stated in the previous Response filed July 7, 2003, the remarks of which are hereby incorporated by reference. The following remarks are provided in rebuttal of the Examiner's statements in the present Office Action beginning on pages 2-4 of the Office Action.

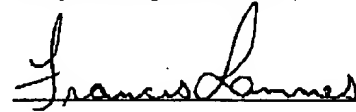
Claim 8 is dependent on independent claim 1; thus, this claim distinguishes over Koperda for at least the reasons noted above with regards to claim 1. Moreover, Koperda does not provide for the deficiencies of Beswick and Meltzer and thus, any alleged combination of Koperda, Beswick and Meltzer would not be sufficient to reject claim 1 or claim 8 by virtue of its dependency. That is, Koperda does not teach or suggest each of the plurality of computing devices communicates with the hub via only a wireless connection and the hub receives and retransmits requested documents between selected computing devices of the plurality of computing devices and where the hub is not connected to any external network, as recited in claim 1 from which claim 8 depends. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

IV. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over Beswick and Meltzer, Sopko and Kopera and is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,



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